

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USLOSACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4612

E.O. 11652: GDS 12-31-79

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, NL

SUBJECT: NATO SPECIALIZATION STUDY, SUB-GROUP NVAY

REF: A. USNATO 4508

B. STATE 192714(NOTAL)

C. USNATO 4516 (NOTAL)

D. USNATO 4584 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE REPORTS THE RESULTS OF THE NATO
SPECIALIZATION STEERING GROUP MEETING AT NATO HQ SEPTEMBER 28,
WHICH (1) CONSIDERED FORMATION OF MARITIME SUB-GROUP; (2)
APPROVED FORMATION OF A LOGISTICS SUB-GROUP; AND (3) RECEIVED
INTERIM REPORTS FROM THE LAND AND AIR FORCES SUB-GROUPS.
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END SUMMARY.

1. MARITIME SUB-GROUP:

A. NO NATION OBJECTED TO FORMATION OF MARITIME SUB-GROUP, US

(MCAULIFFE) RESERVED PER REFERENCES A. AND B. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING GROUP (SPIERENBURG) FORMED THE MARITIME SUB-GROUP ON A CONDITIONAL BASIS, PENDING CONCURRENCE BY US.

B. ALL NATIONS, EXCEPT US WHICH MAINTAINED ITS RESERVATION IN TOTO, INDICATED DESIRE FOR UK TO CHAIR THE MARITIME SUB-GROUP. UK (PECK) AGREED TO ADVISE LONDON IN HOPES OF APPROVAL.

C. THE FIRST MEETING OF THE MARITIME SUB-GROUP WILL BE CALLED WHEN US CONCURS IN FORMING THE SUB-GROUP AND WHEN UK CONFIRMS ACCEPTANCE OF CHAIRMANSHIP. SHOULD EITHER THE US OR THE UK RESPONSE BE NEGATIVE, THE STEERING GROUP WILL MEET AGAIN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM.

D. NO TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) WERE DEVELOPED ALTHOUGH REFERENCE WAS MADE BY THE CHAIRMAN TO USING PARAGRAPH 14 OF DUTCH PAPER (REF A) AS BASIS FOR TOR.

2. ON LOGISTICS, CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED TO ESTABLISH A SUB-GROUP (REF C) AND THAT FIRST MEETING WOULD BE HELD OCTOBER 5 UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF DR. GARDINER TUCKER OF THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF. SUB-GROUP WILL ATTEMPT AN INTERIM REPORT BY OCTOBER 25. STEERING GROUP AGREED.

3. TO PRECLUDE HAVING ANOTHER STEERING GROUP MEETING OCTOBER 5 AS PLANNED, ORAL STATUS REPORTS WERE PRESENTED BY LAND AND AIR FORCES SUB-GROUP CHAIRMEN. ON LAND FORCES, CHAIRMAN PRESENTED RESUME OF FIRST WORKING PAPER (REF D) AND, IN RESPONSE TO QUERY FROM SPIERENBURG, SAID SUB-GROUP WILL RECOMMEND EITHER THAT NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT PROCURE LANCE, OR THAT ONE OF THREE ALTERNATIVES IN PAPER BE ADOPTED. (AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, SUB-GROUP WILL RECOMMEND LANCE PROCUREMENT.)

4. ON AIR FORCES, CHAIRMAN REPORTED THAT SUB-GROUP WILL RECOMMEND THAT SECOND ALTERNATIVE BE ADOPTED FOR NETHERLANDS AIR FORCE I.E., "CONVENTIONAL OFFENSIVE AIR OPERATIONS WITH A LIMITED AIR SUPERIORITY CAPABILITY AND LIMITED NUCLEAR CAPABILITY", AS RECOMMENDED BY MILITARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GENERAL STEINHOFF ON AUGUST 22, 1973. MENZIES (CANADA) CHALLENGED OPTIMISM IN REPORT, AND CHAIRMAN RESPONDED THAT OTHER CONFIDENTIAL

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NATIONS COULD FILL GAP BY 1978 AND SACEUR COULD RE-TARGET (SEE SEPTEL). PECK (UK), IN POINTED QUERY TO SPIERENBURG, WONDERED IF THIS WAS A MONEY-SAVING EXERCISE OR DIVERSION OF FUNDS TO OTHER NATO NEEDS. SPIERENBURG RESPONDED THAT THE RESULT SHOULD BE GREATER EFFECTIVENESS FOR THE SAME MONEY. IF SMALLER COUNTRIES CANNOT AFFORD TO BUY SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS SYSTEMS, INSTEAD OF DROPPING PROCUREMENT PLANS UNILATERALLY THEY SHOULD CONSULT WITH ALLIANCE AND "TRY TO WORK SOMETHING OUT".
RUMSFELD

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BRUSSELS
THE HAGUE
LONDON
LUXEMBOURG
OTTAWA

USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
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